

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 131862

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 AF-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 131862

NESCO

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO, OVIP

SUBJECT: VISIT TO DEPARTMENT OF UNESCO DEPUTY DIRECTOR
GENERAL, JOHN E. FOBES

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF FOBES' MEETING WITH IO
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE, JUNE 4:

2. UNESCO FINANCIAL SITUATION. FOBES CONVEYED MESSAGE
FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW THAT EARLY IN JULY HE WILL BE
SENDING NOTICES TO MEMBER STATES REQUESTING LOANS AT OTHER
THAN COMMERCIAL RATES. FOBES ALSO STATED THAT THINKING
OF DG IS THAT U.S. OUGHT TO SAY SOMETHING TO HIM FORMALLY
ABOUT STATUS OF U. S. PAYMENTS. BLAKE SAID PERMDEL WOULD
BE COMMUNICATING FORMALLY WITH DG ON THIS SUBJECT,
PROBABLY TOWARDS MID-JUNE. FOBES SAID HE ALSO WANTED TO
WARN DEPARTMENT THAT U.S. AND OTHER MEMBER STATES WERE
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PAGE 02 STATE 131862

ABOUT TO BE HIT BY SITUATION ARISING FROM 20 DECREASE IN

VALUE OF DOLLAR VIS-A-VIS FRENCH FRANC. FOBES FORESAW DEFICIT FOR 1975-76 BIENNIUM OF \$35 TO \$50 MILLION, NOT COUNTING U. S. NON-PAYMENT. SITUATION WILL BE TAKEN B UP BY SEPTEMBER EX BD BUT FOBES WANTED TO GIVE US ADVANCE WARNING. BLAKE REPLIED THIS WAS PROBLEM FOR ENTIRE UN SYSTEM AND WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH BY UN SECRETARY GENERAL ACROSS THE BOARD. BLAKE STRESSED IT HIGHLY

UNLIKELY U. S. WOULD BE ABLE TO GET EXTRA MONEY FROM CONGRESS TO MAKE UP FOR ANTICIPATED SHORTFALL. FOBES STRESSED THAT IF THIS WERE THE CASE, U. S. HAD BETTER START TELLING KEY LDC MEMBERS BAD NEWS RIGHT NOW. FOBES ALSO SUGGESTED U. S. TAKE INITIATIVE WITH DG M'BOW AND KEY LDC'S TO DISCUSS UNESCO'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

3. BLAKE NOTED WE WERE REASONABLY HAPPY WITH EVOLUTION OF SITUATION AT RECENT EXBD SESSION. WE WERE ALSO ENCOURAGED BY NEWS OF DG'S MEETING WITH ISRAELI REP. MADAME LAMBERT. FOBES RELATED THAT M'BOW TOLD MADAME LAMBERT EXTENT TO WHICH ISRAEL HAD BECOME ISOLATED AND THAT ISRAEL'S POLICY WAS HURTING ITSELF AS WELL AS UNESCO. FOBES THOUGHT DG WOULD EVENTUALLY SEND LEMAIRE AND BOLLA, DIRECTOR UNESCO CULTURAL HERITAGE DEPARTMENT, BACK TO JERUSALEM AT TIME TO BE DETERMINED.

4. BLAKE STRESSED TO FOBES IMPORTANCE WHICH U. S. ATTACHES TO STEPS FOR ASSOCIATING ISRAEL WITH ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO'S EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP, AND IN PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE OF UNESCO INVITATION TO ISRAEL TO PARTICIPATE IN HELSINKI MEETING OF EUROPEAN EXPERTS ON DIPLOMA EQUIVALENCY IN OCTOBER 1975. FOBES SAID HE WOULD FOLLOW UP HELSINKI MEETING POSSIBILITIES CAREFULLY UPON RETURN TO PARIS.

5. RE POSSIBILITY OF VISIT BY M'BOW TO U.S., FOBES COMMENTED THAT INVITATION FROM AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR OCTOBER 9 IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF CONFLICT IN SCHEDULING WITH NEXT EXBD SESSION. FOBES NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT M'BOW WOULD BE IN NEW YORK CITY WEEK OCTOBER 20 FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF ALL HEADS OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 131862

UN AGENCIES AND THAT PERHAPS HE COULD MAKE A VISIT TO WASHINGTON THEREAFTER.

6. ON SUBJECT OF CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES, BLAKE DESCRIBED CASE AMENDMENT AS SHORT-RANGE MEASURE ABOUT WHICH SOME CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS HAD RESERVATIONS AS TO U. S. POLICY. THINGS HAD GONE WELL IN WHO MEETING IN MAY. WE WERE NOW WAITING TO SEE HOW SITUATION DEVELOPS WITH REGARD TO PLO

AT ILO CONFERENCE THIS MONTH. IF CIRCUMSTANCES EVOLVE
AT FAVORABLY, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONSIDER ASKING FOR
A PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION ON UNESCO LATER IN THE YEAR. KISSINGER

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